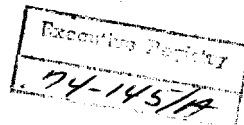


SECRET



28 JAN 1974

Rear Admiral E. F. Rectanus, USN
Director of Naval Intelligence
Department of the Navy
Washington, D.C. 20350

Dear Admiral Rectanus:

Thank you for the copy of your study, "Comparative Estimates of Soviet Naval Strength." I consider this kind of performance review to be extremely valuable and would welcome further studies of this nature.

I fully agree that forecasting military forces is a difficult business and it too often becomes little more than educated guesswork for periods in excess of a few years. To help improve forecasting I would suggest that in future studies all of us give some detailed attention to the causes of our most serious errors. I would appreciate your recommendations as to the ways we could improve our identification of major uncertainties or errors and steps we could take to correct them.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bill

W. E. Colby
Director

CONCUR:

/4/

11 JAN 1974

Deputy for National Intelligence Officers

D/DCI/NIO:GACarver:swr

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SECRET

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Routing Slip

TO:

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4	DDS&T				
5	DDI		X		
6	DDM&S				
7	DDO				
8	D/DCI/IC		X		
9	D/DCI/NIO	X			
10	OGC				
11	OLC				
12	IG				
13	Compt				
14	D/Pers				
15	D/S				
16	DTR				
17	Asst/DCI				
18	AO/DCI				
19					
20					
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SUSPENSE _____
 Date _____

Remarks:

Please review and, if warranted, call to DCI's attention. If answer required, please reply directly.

D Executive Secretary

8 January 1974

Date

25X1

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